

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Christopher J. Calhoun

Inventor:

Serial No.: 10/631,980

Examiner: Betton, Timothy E.

Filed: July 31, 2003

Group Art 1617

Unit:

For: RESORBABLE THIN MEMBRANES

REQUEST FOR EXAMINER INTERVIEW

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir/madam:

With this letter Applicants request an Examiner Interview for the above-referenced patent application, by telephone, on Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at 3:00 PM EST, with the Examiner of Record.

Applicants wish to discuss entry of the following hypothetical (unofficial) Amendment to the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6 of the Specification, so that the paragraph reads as set forth in the following annotated paragraph:

In a presently preferred embodiment of the invention, the novel thin membranes (NTMs) can be manufactured using extrusion procedures, such as for example those known in the art for making non-NTM structures. The NTM extrusion procedures according to the invention advantageously can provide for efficient production of the membraneNTMs. Moreover, membraneNTMs which are manufactured by such NTM extrusion techniques according to the invention be free from solvent trappings in the membraneNTM and, furthermore, according to the invention, can be provided with a molecular bias, including a predetermined molecular bias. Monoaxial extrusion may according to the invention be employed to manufacture the membraneNTMs in a preferred embodiment of the present invention. In a modified embodiment, biaxial extrusion procedures may according to the invention be implemented to manufacture the membraneNTMs. In one embodiment, a composition mixture comprising according to the invention an amorphous resorbable polymer, such as an amorphous lactide polymer, which can be for example poly L-lactide or more preferably poly (L-lactide-co-D,L-lactide), is extruded to form an membrane of the present inventionNTM. In one embodiment, poly (L-lactide-co-D,L-lactide) 70:30 Resomer LR708 (manufactured and supplied from Boehringer Ingelheim KG of Germany) is extruded according to the invention to form membranes of the present inventionNTMs.

Applicants further wish to discuss the appropriateness of the outstanding Office Action and of the claim rejections contained therein.

If the Examiner is not available at this stated time, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate by return E-mail (krm@patlawyers.com) or by phone an alternative time, before the close of business Wednesday, March 17, 2008, for the Examiner Interview.

Should the Examiner believe that a pre-Interview telephone conference with Applicants' representative would be helpful to advance the prosecution of the application, or for any other reason, he or she is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the below number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any needed fees to deposit account 50-1600.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: March 16, 2008

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